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Chairman: Mr. Mbayu ..... (Cameroon)

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01-56627 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 95: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

(c) Science and technology for development (*continued*) (A/56/96-E/2001/87, A/56/222-S/2001/736, A/56/306)

1. **Mr. El Atrash** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that the developing countries were very concerned that the development partners did not seem ready to facilitate technology transfer from the developed to the developing countries and thereby make it available for development. Nonetheless, science and technology for development constituted one of the most effective elements for promoting world economic progress and sustainable development. For lack of access to science and technology, the developing countries had fallen behind in that field, and the technological gap between the developed and developing countries was enormous.

2. Obstacles to development remained and were difficult to overcome. The majority of the world's population lived in poverty and underdevelopment, and sustainable development seemed impossible for them to attain. His delegation was increasingly concerned at that painful reality and was disturbed to see that, despite the Bangkok Plan of Action and the Havana Programme of Action, the gap between the developing and developed countries continued to widen.

3. In view of the foregoing, together with the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/2001/31) and that of the Secretary-General (A/56/96), his delegation encouraged the establishment of an open-ended working group to prepare the work of the Commission before the next session of the Second Committee in order to overcome the remaining obstacles and ensure the proper functioning of the Commission and its effective participation in the policy-making process of the United Nations on science and technology issues.

4. Since the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was the leading United Nations agency for science and technology for development and was a very useful tool for coordination thereof, it would be useful to incorporate a stronger science and technology component in its main programmes. His delegation welcomed the establishment of the Science and Technology for Development Network by UNCTAD. It supported the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and its participation in the World Summit for Sustainable Development (2002) and the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunisia in 2005. It encouraged the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to discharge its mandate, as contained in the Millennium Declaration, and to take advantage of all the lessons and working tools available in the United Nations system, while recognizing that the Commission must have enough resources to carry out its functions.

5. His delegation was willing to work together with all its partners to consolidate cooperation with the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and to increase the resources available to developing countries and those in transition in order to put an end to underdevelopment.

6. **Mr. Valera Paulino** (Mexico) noted with satisfaction that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development had decided to focus its work during the inter-sessional period 2001-2003 on an issue that he considered essential for the incorporation of the developing countries into the economy of the twenty-first century, namely, technology development and capacity-building for competitiveness in a digital society. The recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report (A/56/96) were important, particularly those that sought to promote synergies in technology creation, innovation and transfer between the public and private sectors, which deserved particular attention. The Science and Technology for Development Network should play a major role in diffusing up-to-date and abundant information on best practices and opportunities for science and technology partnerships and financing, thus becoming the major science and technology for development tool. The Commission should support the initiatives taken by the developing countries to encourage the private and public sectors to cooperate further on the development and diffusion of new technologies. The establishment of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force (see A/56/96) was an initiative that would help the developing countries to cooperate with all partners with a view to ensuring that science and technology were used for the benefit of development.

7. **Mr. Fasehun** (World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)) noted that the defining feature

of the twentieth century had been technology but that the twenty-first century promised to record even greater technological achievements and would perhaps be the century in which technology would be harnessed by all nations to combat the ills that had afflicted humanity for many millennia. Technology was driven by innovation and creativity, which were enhanced by the protection of intellectual rights. His Organization, with a mandate to protect intellectual property rights, possessed information on all forms of technology, which was available on the Internet. In recognition of the critical importance of innovation and creativity, WIPO had embarked on initiatives designed to explain the intellectual property system and to use intellectual property rights to stimulate creativity and competition. It was also engaged in adapting the intellectual property system for wealth creation in developing countries. Through that system, many small and medium-size enterprises could gain from trade expansion and thus contribute to the growth of their countries.

8. Information and communications technology had often been mentioned as a means of bridging the digital divide. His Organization had embarked on a practical programme to reduce that gap. National intellectual property offices had been linked to WIPO headquarters and to each other, in a programme which would benefit all national offices of developing countries and countries in transition. The Organization had also embarked on the drafting of model intellectual property contractual clauses for access to genetic resources and benefit sharing. That would boost the earnings of many countries, especially developing countries. The Organization was at the service of humanity to promote through international cooperation the creation, dissemination, use and protection of inventions that would promote a better world for all.

9. **Mr. Hamad** (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)) referred to the statement made by the UNESCO representative during the general debate and asked delegations to bear in mind the specific role which the specialized agencies should play, while the Committee's unifying role should be preserved. He associated himself with the statement made by the representative of Belgium on behalf of the European Union and agreed with him about the synergy existing among all the United Nations bodies in scientific and technical development.

Agenda item 100: International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues (*Introduction and general debate*) (A/56/167, A/56/358)

10. **Mr. Chamie** (Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs) said that the countries expressing reservations about the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development considered that the scarce resources available would be better used for the implementation of existing agreements and that bilateral or regional negotiations were more likely to produce results than a conference. They also believed that existing mechanisms within the United Nations system should be used, particularly the Commission on Population and Development, the International Labour Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) had recently made an important contribution in the form of transportation and medical services, technical cooperation and public information campaigns, in particular. The growing collaboration with IOM permitted the United Nations system to address specific concerns by relying on the practical experience of IOM, thus enhancing efficiency.

11. The countries favouring the convening of a conference emphasized the need to safeguard the rights of migrants. They specified that the conference should be of a technical and analytical nature and deal with all types of migrants. However, no consensus existed on a conference's possible goals, funding and secretariat. Many Governments believed that the conference should be financed by the United Nations or by special contributions from donors, although many donors were opposed to the idea of a conference. The prospects for holding the conference were therefore uncertain.

12. The problem of migration was characterized by the lack of data, the absence of a coherent theory to explain the phenomenon and the weak understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and sustainable development. The recent increase in migration, particularly undocumented migration, and the visibility of the phenomenon were having vast and direct effects on the lives and welfare of peoples and the functioning of States.

13. **Mr. Kazemi Kamyab** (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, thanked the Secretary-General for his report (A/56/167). The question of international migration was as old as humanity itself because human beings had always yearned to find elsewhere what could not be found at home. Rising poverty and underdevelopment in some countries, which contributed to the further widening of the gap between North and South, as well as marginalization and the adverse effects of globalization, had led to an increase in the number of persons migrating to the industrialized countries. Regrettably, most population movement took place between developing countries and not from the countries of the South to the countries of the North, owing to a number of factors, including the restrictive immigration policies of the developed nations.

14. International migration had various causes. It affected the development process, which, in turn, influenced population movement. Seen from a global perspective, migration was a phenomenon with both benefits and costs for receiving countries as well as for countries of origin. Demographic trends, such as ageing and urbanization, were affecting the social, economic and political functioning of almost all countries, and the interrelations between international migration and development were numerous and complex.

15. International migration was a major aspect of social and economic development, would be a key issue on the development agenda in the years to come and would present huge challenges to the entire international community. Comprehension of the root causes of international migration and its impact on countries of destination, countries of origin and transit countries was still at the early stages. However, in the light of the brain drain affecting developing countries and the difficulties those States had in taking advantage of the positive effects that the contributions made by expatriate nationals could have on the development of their countries, the question had become a priority.

16. The adoption of immigration policies in different parts of the world was motivated by the desire to regulate both the number and type of migrants and their living conditions. It was important to underscore that international concerns must be taken into account in formulating national migration and development policies. Indeed, any policy aimed at achieving a durable solution to the problem must take account of the following crucial elements: the poverty and marginalization of some developing countries and the growing imbalances between developing and developed countries. The issues of migration and development must therefore be addressed on the basis of the common responsibility of all nations and the imperative of international cooperation to reduce the disparities between North and South. Only through comprehensive, coherent and effective policies based on cooperation and understanding could the benefits of international migration be maximized for all. It was therefore necessary to take coordinated measures at the national, regional and global levels.

17. Because of the differences in the levels of economic development of countries, there was a need to find a common denominator and to initiate a pragmatic dialogue accommodating divergent interests; it was necessary, as a first step, to achieve a better understanding of the phenomenon through exchanges of information. A practical and constructive dialogue was all the more essential since, as the increase in illegal immigration demonstrated, migration and development policies had failed thus far, and there was also a pressing need to strengthen international cooperation on the issue of migration.

18. As to the convening of a conference, the results of the survey of Member States showed that the question required further consideration before a final decision could be reached. While the intergovernmental machinery continued its discussions on the convening of such a conference, it was important to continue and intensify the efforts of all the relevant United Nations system bodies and other international organizations in the field of migration.

19. **Mr. Goffin** (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and Liechtenstein, said that migratory phenomena were affecting ever more countries and influencing the most diverse aspects of societies (demographic, sociological, economic, political and cultural) and that managing those phenomena had become crucial.

20. At the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

(Durban, 2001), the participants had recognized the positive economic, social and cultural contributions made by migrants to both their countries of destination and their countries of origin. They had reaffirmed the sovereign right of States with regard to immigration policy and the need to ensure that that policy was in line with the relevant international human rights instruments. They had condemned racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination towards migrants, underlining the need to combat those phenomena. They had also highlighted the importance of creating conditions conducive to greater harmony and tolerance and greater respect between migrants and the rest of society. They had emphasized that family reunification had a positive impact on integration and, lastly, they had recognized the special vulnerability of migrants.

21. Migration was not only a vector of inter-cultural dialogue and a source of increased understanding between peoples, but also played an important economic role through the movement of labour and of knowledge, creativity, trade and investment. The European Union wished to reiterate the importance of an integrated, regional approach to migratory flows. It had applied a model unique of its kind based on a number of common policies with regard to asylum and migration providing, inter alia, for criteria for the granting of refugee status, minimum standards regarding reception, minimum standards regarding the status of long-term residents from third countries, and the establishment of analytical and descriptive statistics by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT).

22. One of the priorities of the Presidency of the European Union was the formulation of a common asylum and immigration policy. In 1999, the European Council meeting at Tampere (Finland) had approved an ambitious, detailed Action Plan designed to pave the way for the establishment of an open, controllable area, based on the European principles of openness, freedom, hospitality, solidarity, non-discrimination, respect for human rights and human dignity and the values of a multicultural society.

23. That was the spirit prompting the convening of a European Conference on Migration to be held in Brussels in October, which would focus on the management of migration, labour market policies and migration, partnership with countries of origin with a view to managing migration flows and integration of immigrants. At the European Summit at Laeken (Belgium), in December, the Union would take stock of the progress made and would try to draw up a common asylum and migration policy, with emphasis on the reception of asylum-seekers and the harmonization of procedures for granting asylum. In a year that marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the principle of the right to international protection ought to be reaffirmed.

24. That policy also had to encompass measures to counter illegal immigration, especially trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, which had reached alarming proportions. Unscrupulous networks often linked to organized crime were taking advantage of human misery in a scandalous fashion. It was necessary to put an end to such trafficking, which made a mockery of human dignity. In that connection, the European Union welcomed the adoption at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its additional protocols against the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and called on all Member States to ratify those instruments, which had been signed by the 15 members of the Union.

25. Migration was a highly complex phenomenon. In particular, research into migration should pay greater attention to the connection between migration and the pace of development processes and any repercussions it could have on them. Development programmes could also have regard to the effects of migration on the situation of the country of origin and the host country, so as to maximize the potential offered by migration. It would also be advisable to explore possible means of strengthening coordination between the various United Nations bodies in that field.

26. Research permitting a deeper understanding of migration, especially its impact on development, should be pursued as well. Mobility was an inherent feature of human activity. The hidden benefits of migration should be remembered while combating the intolerable aberrations it entailed. Migration had to be managed through an integrated, comprehensive approach which took into consideration the specific characteristics of each region. The useful contribution made by migrants must be recognized by all and their rights must be fully respected.

27. The European Union believed that, although international migration was an important topic, given

its complexity and the disparity of migration patterns, those questions should be examined by the appropriate machinery within the United Nations, rather than at an international conference of the United Nations.

28. **Mr. Maksimychev** (Russian Federation) said that population mobility had increased in the era of globalization. International migration, a major feature of the modern world affecting a growing number of individuals and States, plainly had far-reaching repercussions on all development issues.

29. The Russian Federation was both a country of immigration and a country of emigration. It viewed international migration as a key demographic factor to which due heed had to be paid when population policies and policies for economic and social development were formulated. Analysis and forecasting of migration flows and investigation of the links between migration and development were of great importance for the Russian Federation, which had considered those aspects in the demographic development plan it had adopted to cover the period up to the year 2015. Moreover, it was essential to boost international cooperation in the collection and analysis of data on migration and to publicize policies which incorporated migration in development strategies.

30. The Russian Federation was convinced that the United Nations could and should make a significant contribution to that undertaking and believed that further support should be given to the useful work done by the United Nations Secretariat and other United Nations bodies to study international migration, particularly by publishing in-depth surveys and arranging meetings where experts from various countries could hold fruitful exchanges of views.

31. **Mr. Valera** (Mexico) began by congratulating the Secretary-General and the United Nations bodies dealing with issues of migration, population, employment, statistics and human rights on the quality of the technical documentation which supported the Second Committee's debates. He also acknowledged the work of those institutions which devoted themselves to international migration and whose diverse nature bore witness to the importance and complexity of the subject under discussion; notably, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) had provided fruitful support to the Puebla Process in North and Central America (A/56/167, para. 44).

32. In point of fact, international migration was one of the major global phenomena with which the international community must come to grips in a spirit of genuine cooperation. No country or region of the world was now safe from the risks posed by the phenomenon or beyond the reach of its potential effects, so it was necessary to reduce its cost and optimize its advantages.

33. According to figures published by IOM, in 2000, the world had 150 million migrants or aliens living in host countries, 47.5 per cent of whom were women. Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean produced sizeable migratory flows, since between 5 and 15 per cent of their populations lived abroad.

34. The interlinkages between international migration and development were complex in the sense that they brought into play a multiplicity of factors — economic, technological, demographic, social, ecological, historical and cultural — depending on regional characteristics. That was why for several years now Mexico had been wanting an international conference to be held under United Nations auspices on international migration and development, since discussion of the subject would benefit enormously from a systematic consideration of the causes, manifestations and consequences of international migration and its short-, medium- and long-term costs and benefits to countries of origin as well as to transit and host countries.

35. As the Secretary-General had pointed out in his report (A/56/167), because of the observable divergences of views and interests and the close links it had with national security, the question of international migration remained a delicate one. That was why Mexico, which was a country of origin, destination and transit for substantial migratory flows, had argued vigorously in various multilateral forums on behalf of the fundamental rights of migrants irrespective of their place of residence or status. Although Mexico recognized that all States had the right to determine and implement whatever migration policy they chose and to exercise sovereignty in controlling their borders, it considered that the way States treated foreigners in their territory was not a matter that fell exclusively within their competence and must be consistent with international norms. Thus, Mexico considered that the only way to manage the phenomenon of international migration in a rational and humane manner for the good of both migrants and host societies and without

harming the societies of origin and transit was through bilateral, regional or international cooperation.

36. **Mr. Jiménez Torres** (Ecuador) said that for the past 10 years, along with globalization, migration had become a genuinely global phenomenon which required responsible action on the part of the international community.

37. In fact, the desperate search for a better life in a world which was quick to exclude and marginalize pushed growing numbers of people to join the swelling migratory flows between developing countries or between developed and developing countries. Those migrations took both legal and illegal routes due to the existence of unscrupulous networks and groups which profited from the despair of all who aspired to a life with more dignity. Migrants whose status was irregular were exploited and deprived of the most basic rights. International migration had significant economic and social consequences for the countries of origin and for the host countries. It contributed to the dynamism of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors either in terms of providing manpower or through transfers of resources to countries of origin. It therefore represented a positive factor in wealth creation, and thus for the well-being of populations.

38. Managing the phenomenon required strengthening the forums for inter-institutional dialogue and coordination at subregional, regional and global levels and reaffirming the principle that all parties concerned must collectively assume responsibility for the problem. At the same time it was essential to redouble efforts to protect the rights of migrants and their families. In fact, it was the only path to follow if the problem was to be tackled in all its aspects and maximum profit was to be derived from the advantages accruing from demographic mobility.

39. **Mr. Paiva** (Observer for the International Organization for Migration) said that, as the Secretary-General had emphasized in his report (A/56/167), the interlinkages between migration and development were complex and sometimes even controversial. For example, it was not clear whether the exodus of skilled workers necessarily harmed the countries of origin, given that migrants sent money back to their families, that they formed a link with the new technologies used abroad and that, if they returned, their countries could benefit from the skills they had acquired. Nor was it clear what role underdevelopment played as the driving force behind international migration given that the majority of migrants were not the poorest of the poor and that most migratory flows were between developing countries. It was also unclear whether migration still had the same favourable impact on development as it had in the past. Academics, decision makers and professionals were grappling with those questions while at the same time the worldwide flow of ideas, goods, images and capital was accelerating and irrevocably altering the context in which people moved. One thing was certain, however, and that was that migration was a global phenomenon whose repercussions were felt by all countries, whether they were countries of origin, host countries or transit countries. That was something new and it had significant consequences for relations between States and for multilateral organizations.

40. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) had been profoundly reshaped by the changes that had taken place during the previous decade. For instance, no one had foreseen the demand for information and communication technology workers and the ensuing labour migration schemes, or the impact of stricter conditions for acquiring the right of asylum, which had prompted a tremendous surge in irregular immigration. Nor had anyone foreseen the new demographic challenges or the explosion of migrant trafficking, especially in women, and the vast array of violations and violence it entailed.

41. The report of the Secretary-General gave a full account of the activities of IOM to promote better understanding of current migration trends and to help Governments to address them, to devise solutions and to foster international dialogue on the subject. However, one priority area should be underscored: support for regional consultations on migration, which enabled regions to have a better understanding of shared problems and to adopt common approaches to irregular migration and migrant smuggling and trafficking.

42. IOM, which had been founded in 1951 as a temporary organization to deal with the operational aspects of the migration resulting from the Second World War in Western Europe and which was currently conducting a wide range of activities in some 90 countries, now faced challenges more complex in many ways than those it had encountered at its inception. Yet there appeared to be a growing recognition on the part of the international community to the importance of

international migration on the world scene and of the need to make a concerted effort to bring shared solutions to bear on the problem.

43. **Mr. Gospodinov** (Head of delegation of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) extended his condolences to the people and Government of the United States following the terrible events that had occurred in New York on 11 September.

44. The issue of migration and development was of increasing importance to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It was not simply a question of migration itself, or of why migrants felt impelled to leave their countries. More important was the momentum they brought to the host countries by contributing to their economic and social growth and to the development of new perspectives in the communities in which they settled. Also important was the negative impact that people's departure from a country could have on its development, for it was often the best educated and most capable who left.

45. The motivation to leave was the migrants' hope of a better life at a time when they saw no future for themselves in their home country. Yet they arrived in the host country only to receive second-class treatment and to be frequently denied the most basic rights. It was those new and unexpected forms of vulnerability that were the core concern of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, a vulnerability explained by the fact that the lives of migrants seldom improved as soon as they arrived in the new country and that their hopes might take as long as a generation to be realized.

46. A number of factors led to an increase in migratory flows, a trend that was unlikely to be reversed. Apart from the well-known socio-economic factors, there was population pressure in the home country and the deepening gulf between rich and poor countries; in addition, there was the relative ease and lower cost of travel, together with the decline in birth rates and the ageing of the population in the developed countries which increased the demand for labour. Not only were those interlinking factors hardly conducive to any single solution, but there was also a reluctance on the part of some Governments and many populations to recognize that they could not make a successful transition to the twenty-first century unless migrants came to swell the ranks of their workforce, thus fuelling their economies. Migrants were also resented and discriminated against when they took jobs in a society which also faced an unemployment problem. Since Governments were either unwilling or unable to tackle the multifaceted migration-related problems and refused entry to migrants lacking the qualifications they sought, migration had ceased to be a means of relocating the workforce in general, and now served to enrich some countries at the expense of others.

47. There were other aspects that should be considered in greater detail. For example, migration barriers led potential migrants to resort to illegal entry or to claim the right of asylum in the new country; that led to the escalation of migrant trafficking and delays in processing applications from genuine claimants. The vulnerability of migrants posed many other problems, both medical (increased prevalence of diseases such as HIV/AIDS) and educational.

48. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies were already responding to the needs of migrants through counselling and training, and by campaigning against the discrimination and xenophobia of which they were sometimes victims. The events of 11 September had added a new dimension to their task, which must now include addressing the resurgence of discrimination and violence in districts inhabited by foreigners. There was a danger that those events would jeopardize the debate on migration and development, but Governments could not, for all that, turn back the clock in an effort to reverse the inexorable tide of immigration, so useful for the progress of development. Moreover, the second-class treatment meted out to migrants in their new countries could not be tolerated.

49. **Mr. Lee** (Republic of Korea) said that, as a result of the considerable increase in the volume of international migration in recent decades, the international community had to pay increased attention to that phenomenon. However, host and originating countries had not always met migration movements with enthusiasm.

50. While migratory movements could play a positive role in enhancing the diversity and dynamism of host societies when properly managed, their socio-economic and demographic implications at both the national and international levels must not be underestimated. His delegation believed that the topic of international migration should be addressed in the United Nations

system in the context of economic and social development. Since migration was not an isolated phenomenon, it was only by addressing its root causes that a solution could be found to it. In other words, international migration should be discussed in the overall context of the United Nations efforts towards poverty eradication and sustainable development. Moreover, the linkages between international migration and development should be clearly reaffirmed.

51. The results of the survey carried out among Governments indicated that it was premature to expect to garner the international consensus needed for the holding of a United Nations conference on international migration and development. His delegation was of the view that existing instruments in the United Nations system, including relevant functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other international organs, could be enhanced through more efficient coordination and interaction.

52. **Mr. Ragab** (Egypt) said that the issue of international migration was receiving increasing attention at the political, social and economic levels. A growing number of countries were adopting policies designed to slow down immigration. There were many reasons for that renewed interest. They included the widening economic gap between countries of the South and countries of the North; the existence in the countries of the North of a labour market capable of absorbing labour from countries of the South in specialized areas of technology; the economic recession in developing countries; increasing unemployment and inflation; and the expansion of political conflicts, including in Africa, that increased insecurity and poverty.

53. The direct relationship between international migration and globalization was very complex and development was the joint responsibility of countries of the North and the South. The countries of the South could not begin their development, improve their economy and the living conditions of their citizens and become successfully integrated into the world economy without taking concrete measures at the local and international levels. At the local level, priority should be given to strengthening institutions, guaranteeing jobs and improving living conditions. However, the most difficult aspects of the problem concerned the international economic order. That order should be restructured in order to strengthen the capacities of developing countries, intensify the exchange of knowledge, promote the training of the human resources of those countries, help them modernize their means of production, give a new impetus to their markets and create prospects for national and international investment to enable them to move from the stage of consumer countries to that of producer countries. Moreover, a sustainable solution must be found to the external debt problem, which had a direct impact on the economies of those countries and consequently on unemployment, which triggered the brain drain.

54. In conclusion, he said that his delegation endorsed the statement by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, that there were many obstacles to the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development, but that such obstacles should not prevent a global approach being taken on the issue. That issue should be considered within the framework of development and in accordance with joint international responsibility and the necessary cooperation should be promoted in order to reduce the gap between the countries of the North and those of the South. It was important to eliminate all those obstacles in order to permit the holding of the conference, since it would certainly have a considerable impact on both migration and development.

55. **Mr. Bustinza** (Peru), noting that he preferred to use the term underdeveloped country instead of developing country, said that for the citizens of those countries, it was obvious that the current world was not governed by freedom. The oft-vaunted concept of liberalization in the world was in fact purely ideological. Of the factors of production, only capital enjoyed absolute freedom of movement from one country to the other in accordance with its needs. Technology and employment were held captive by national borders.

56. He believed it useful that the issue of international migration should be considered at the United Nations. However, the most urgent aspect of the problem of migration should be addressed through negotiations within the framework of the World Trade Organization in order to extend the freedom of movement to all factors of production, including labour services.

57. Lastly, he noted that his country believed in the market economy and the free movement of capital, but that such freedom should also be extended to jobs, technology and goods and services.

The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.